GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2944
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007
FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY
Gehlot Shri Thaawar Chand

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food and nutrition security has been referred to by the Government in the approach paper to the Eleventh Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not mentioning the said issue in the approach paper to Eleventh Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) and (b) : The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan as approved by the National Development Council states that increase in agricultural income and self-sufficiency in agricultural production is critical for ensuring food security. The Approach Paper also mentions raising the growth rate of agricultural GDP to 4% per year in the Eleventh Plan from the current level of around 2% per year, strengthening of the Public Distribution System, rural development and poverty alleviation programmes including the programmes of wage employment, mid-day meals to school children, etc. as instruments to ensure food security and improve the nutritional status of the population. The other programmes to improve the nutritional status of the different groups of the population include Integrated Child Development Programme (ICDS) for supplementary nutrition to children and National Rural Health Mission (NHRM), to improve the access and availability of quality health care, sanitation and nutrition. The Approach Paper states reduction of malnutrition among children of age group 0-3 to half its present level as one of the monitorable socio-economic targets of the Eleventh Plan.

(c): In view of above, does not arise.